AUTHORIZATION OF FOUR MEMBERS OF SENATE TO ATTEND THE DORCHESTER HEIGHTS, MASS., CELE-BRATION

MARCH 5 (legislative day, JANUARY 29), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. WATKINS, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. Res. 88]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the resolution (S. Res. 88) to authorize the attendance of four Members of the United States Senate at the celebration of the one-hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the fortification of Dorchester Heights, Mass., and the evacuation of the British from Boston, Mass., to be held in South Boston, Mass., on March 17, 1951, having considered the same, report favorably thereon, without amendment, and recommend that the resolution do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to authorize the President of the United States Senate to appoint four Members of the United States Senate to attend the celebration of the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the expulsion of the British from Dorchester Heights, Mass.

STATEMENT

March 17 marks the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of an event that was one of the preludes to American independence: The expulsion of the British troops from Boston. Recollection in 1951 of this heroic chapter in the history of American democracy vividly shows how past enmities can be forgotten in the common defense of freedom.

As a military achievement it was the climax to the daring seizure of the strategic heights of Dorchester by General Washington, an exploit which wrung from General Howe the tribute, "The rebels have done more in one night than my whole army would have accomplished in a month." It took from the British the town described at the time by Lord Manchester in the British Parliament as "the first object of the war, the immediate cause of hostilities, the place of arms, which has cost this nation more than a million to defend."

It inspired the soldiers with confidence in themselves and faith in the energy, resourcefulness and skill of their commander, George Washington. It stiffened the morale of all patriots and strengthened their determination to carry on, regardless of all dangers and sacrifices until their grievances were remedied and their liberty assured. It added great impetus to the growing aspiration for complete independence boldly proclaimed less than 4 months thereafter.

No one can predict what dangers and sacrifices again lie in store for America, but recollection of March 17 stiffens our morale today and strengthens our determination to preserve the freedom won for us at Dorchester Heights. At such a critical time, this celebration takes on a heightened significance for a nation of self-reliant and liberty-

loving people.

It is for these reasons that the committee favorably recommends this resolution.

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